

Press Release: U.S.-Japan-Republic of Korea Video Teleconference

Representatives from the United States, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK) held a video-teleconference on November 30, 2017 (EST), to continue to share information and coordinate responses to the North Korean intercontinental-range ballistic missile launch conducted on November 28, 2017 (EST).

Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs Mr. David Helvey, Deputy Minister of National Defense Yeo Suk-joo, and Deputy Director General Defense Policy Bureau Masami Oka, led their respective government delegations.

The three officials committed to continuing to cooperate on applying maximum pressure on North Korea so it changes its path, refrains from provocative and threatening actions, and makes a strategic decision to abandon its nuclear and missile programs.

The three sides condemned in the strongest terms the missile launch and called on North Korea to abide by its international obligations and commitments. The three officials stressed the importance of working closely with the international community to take measures to enhance the effectiveness of UN sanctions, including the prevention of illicit maritime transport of goods to and from North Korea.

The three sides pledged to enhance security cooperation. The three officials highlighted the importance of cooperation in the areas of information sharing on the North Korean threat and ballistic missile defense. The United States reaffirmed its ironclad commitment to the defense of the Republic of Korea and Japan.